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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Estonian Deportations/MVD Construction Board of the
White Sea Canal/Estonian CP Organization

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Deportations

1. The authorities have used two different methods to deport people from Estonia:
 - (a) - Wholesale deportations to get rid of a whole group of the population, eg, the farmers resisting collectivization in 1949; or to empty an area for security reasons, eg, the local deportation from the environs of Tallinn in March 1953. The people are deported as an administrative measure and often settled permanently elsewhere, usually in arduous conditions.
 - (b) - Individual arrests striking at persons charged with actual or potential anti-regime activities or suspicion thereof. Such persons are kept in prison in Estonia, sometimes tried publicly, more often by an MVD court in absentia. When a sufficient number has collected they are sent to forced labor camps.
2. [redacted] two groups of 100 persons individually sentenced were sent to penal servitude (ispravitelno-trudovye raboty) from Estonia: in the spring of 1951 and in the spring of 1952. They had been turned over to the MVD Construction Board of the White Sea Canal (Stroitelnoie Upravlenie MVD Bielomorskogo Kanala). The MVD are working this construction on a contractual basis. The head of the Board is MVD Colonel V P Busyghin. His deputy is MVD Lt Col P I Kuznetsov. The enterprise derives its manpower exclusively from among persons sentenced to forced labor. Estonians had been sent to penal servitude for this enterprise prior to 1951.

CP Organization

3. The atmosphere of general armament and war preparations prevailing in the USSR has found new expression in the formation of Sections for Military Preparation within the Communist Parties of the constituent republics. In Soviet Estonia the appropriate section (Sektor Voennopodgotovki Pri TsK Kp Estonii) at the

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Central Committee of the CP was formed in November 1952. Its mission is said to be 'to assist the state organs in all questions of defence.' Its personnel had not been made public in Estonia as of spring 1953.

4. In addition to the above section the CP has over 12 other sections or departments, viz,

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- (a) - for the Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations
- (b) - for propaganda and agitation
- (c) - for the minutes
- (d) - for the administration
- (e) - for transport
- (f) - for heavy industry
- (g) - for light industry
- (h) - for the plan, finances and trade
- (i) - for agriculture
- (j) - for women's work
- (k) - for science and establishments of higher education
- (l) - for literature and art
- (m) - for schools

There used also to be a section for fishing but since the liquidation of the fishing ministry, it too, has been merged with the section for light industry. The functions of these sections are to supervise the activities of the administration in the respective fields.

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